



U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

District Eleven North Region DISTRICT STAFF OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

November 3, 2021

To: Dean McFarren

Cc: Curtis Han

Cc: District Board and Staff, ADSO-SO CM

From: Larry Stanton DSO-CM

HIGHLIGHTS/"3 UPS":

1. Weekly bay area and Sacramento Valley VHF net is active as well as the D11N HF and West Coast Region HF net. Our members also participating with the 11S HF net.
2. We are planning on a web based TCO course to be held in December 2021. Details provided to District MT.
3. West Coast Region Net will "merge with the D11N Station Availability Net and the D11S HF Net. The plan is to incorporate Voice and digital training following net check in. This will take effect November 9 at 1845hrs local. This is a good merger of resources and training expertise.
4. VTS has accessed Diablo for the past three weeks.
5. I have purchased an account for VOIP to link members to the Diablo repeater. This will allow members (up to 50) to participate in the Monday nets if they choose. I hope to have it up within 1 week.
6. Solar installation at Vaca site completed. Thank you Kevin Sellstrom.
7. **Email from USCG- regarding transmitter hunt conducted by Desmond Thorsson:**

October 27 2021

*Subject: *Chalk another one up for the Auxiliary Comms Unit

Team,

Auxiliary Communications Desmond Thorsson responded to a RCC Alameda request to locate and secure a beacon that was DF'd to the Marina Village Yacht Harbor on Alameda the evening prior (A/S SF and STA SF). Within 1 hour of launching, he located and secured a beacon aboard a moored 30ft S/V. The operator recently purchased the boat, was cleaning

the vessel this weekend, and moved the beacon to a storage compartment in the V-berth. Unknown to him, the on/off switch was busted and activated as soon as he turned right side up.

The beacon was a ACR RLB-14 Class "A" EPIRB that transmits only on 121.5Mhz. This beacon was a very popular with mariners in the 1980 and 1990s until discontinued for transition to 406Mhz beacons. The battery sticker is from 1992 and the beacon was transmitting the 121.5Mhz homing beacon loud and clear.

To launch Auxiliary comms, contact CWO Werre, D11 (dt), who will coordinate with the Aux watch officer.

The marina staff was aware and supported Desmond's efforts due to our proactive coordination with the marina the night before and morning of.

Unfortunately this was not the 406Mhz beacon we dispatched him to locate, but this Class "A" EPIRB happened to be in the same area. The 406 beacon battery was pretty low with intermittent LEO hits (hit/open-no detect, repeat hours later), so Desmond was unable to hear the 121.5 homing beacon or receive the 406Mhz data burst.

v/r,

Douglas Samp

US Coast Guard District Eleven

Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) Alameda
Search and Rescue (SAR) Specialist

BROVO-ZULU!

ADSO Reports:

1. CM-Dep-Vanderhyde- Nothing to report.
2. ADSO-ARMS-Firehock: ARMS program functioning well. Nothing new to report. Fleet week event went well.
3. ADSO-ACV Busch-
4. ADSO-CC Scholz-. See attached report
5. ADSO-Simmons-No activity.

1. Much of the activity in the past month has been a continuation of earlier efforts.

1a. Work continues on the creation of a operational plan for the 2021/2 full scale exercise (FSE) of the D11CCNET. The first meeting of the coordinators and administrators for the D11CCNET and AUXALE operations with the CCGD11 Dt was held in mid month. A variety of decisions were made but the most important was to delay the FSE until mid-March of 2022.

1b. Details of that meeting's results are provided in the attached pdf file named "SCRIPT FOR SCHOLZ".

2. After consideration and consultation with the DSO-CM's of both 11N and 11S, it was decided to change the operation of a "District" HF net from an independent net to a integral part of the "West Coast Region Net" in early to mid-November. The text of an announcement of that as well as other changes is in the second attachment, entitled "District Net Change". It was distributed to the D11 ALE HF list on 01 November 2021.

3. An important issue mentioned in that email was the focus on incorporating VHF stations into the D11CCNET exercise and in "normal" operations in both the northern and southern regions of AUX D11. More details on this will be forthcoming in November, as well as the scheduling of the Alameda training session in December.

ADSO-CM UTAH- WILLIAMS-

Participating in HF nets. Making good progress on repairs to comms trailer. In need of tires. In contact with fleet manager.

SO Reports/FSO Reports:

Division 1- SO-PAZ

Flotilla 12: Report received.

Participated in Comms for Fleet Week

Flotilla 14: Report on file.

Central Marin Mobil 3 participated in Monday Radio Net

Central Marin Mobile 3 was AWO for Sector on Tuesdays

Novato Mobile 1 was out of town most of the month

Flotilla 17: No report received.

Flotilla 19: Report received. Participated in Monday night Nets. No call outs.

Projects:

Division Optrex Oct 3. The Aux ACV was brought to Station San Francisco and used as

OPCOM for the exercise. Participants were 3 ACV drivers from 0700-1700. Renee Thomas, Sue Fry, John Farina, and Carol Paz did comms.

Goals and Objectives:

Flotilla 14: Goal to add one more Radio Communicator

Flotilla 19: Goal to add one more Radio Communicator

Division 3 SO-STANTON

3-1 No report filed.

3-3-No report filed.

3-5 No report filed.

3-10 Sellstrom- Fleet week completed, 200 hrs Aux CM participation. Mt Vaca solar installation completed.

Division 5- SO-Sumner

Flotilla 51 No FSO CM

Flotilla 52 No FSO CM

Flotilla 53, No activity.

Flotilla 55 No FSO CM

Flotilla 57 No FSO-CM

Division 6-SO- Wormington –Nothing to report.

Division 7- SO-Farmer –work continues on comms trailer.

Division 8-No activity.

Division 10- No report filed.

Division 11- Nothing to report.

Division 12- Rob Torio-Nothing to report.

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES/OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Meet all SO-Cm members.
2. Increase TCO operators.

Goals:

Promote a high level of reliable communications services to the Coast Guard and USCG-AUX using VHF, HF and digital modes (fixed and mobile). This goal can be achieved by doing the following:

Long term:

1. Increase number of HF stations in D11N. PCA Fair demonstrations.
2. Promote VHF nets in each division, voice and digital modes. When realistic, each division should initiate VHF net utilizing available frequencies.

Short term:

1. Hold large and small scale communications exercises to enhance training of members.
2. Train with gold side communications team. Planned training includes Radio Direction Finding, HF and VHF field training exercises within next 8 months.
3. Holding web based TCO course in November. Planning with SO-MT Doug McPherson (Div-3). Working with DSO-MT to schedule events.

PHOTO GALLERY:

Fleet week Pier Team- Lead Kevin Sellstrom, Fred Black and Larry Stanton. Vistors, John Hardin and Don Anderson.



Golden Empire Aux Scout and Boy Scout event, October 30. Jeff Fite discussing communications and RBS programs. Approximately 75 contacts made.



Mt Vaca Solar site. Pictured Kevin Sellstrom

